

BURNABY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

AGENDA

Regular Meeting

DATE: 2022 September 15 (Thursday)

PLACE: Tommy Douglas Library
7311 Kingsway

TIME: 19:00h (7:00pm)

CHAIR: Sarah Bartnik

Our dream is:

A welcoming community where all people can explore, learn and connect.

To realize our dream:

We empower the community to engage with and share stories, ideas and information.

We would like to recognize we are on the ancestral and unceded homelands of the hən̓q̓əmi̓n̓əm̓ and Skwxwú7mesh speaking peoples, and to extend appreciation for the opportunity to hold a meeting on this territory.

Ashley Dunne and Caelin Crosby will provide the Board with a presentation on transgender inclusion work at the Library

PAGE NO.

1. **Motion** to receive agenda
2. **Minutes** (5 minutes incl. agenda)
 - i) **Motion** to adopt the minutes of the regular meeting held 2022 July 21 as circulated

ENCLOSED

3. **Reports** (10 minutes total)
 - i) **Board Chair** (verbal)
 - ii) **Council Liaison** (verbal)
 - iii) **InterLINK Representative** (verbal)

4. **Items for Decision**
 - i) **National Day for Truth and Reconciliation** (5 minutes)

1-2

Purpose: To seek Board approval for closure of the library on September 30.

5. Items for Information

3-4

- i) Provincial COVID-19 Relief and Recovery Grant (10 minutes)

Purpose: To provide the Board with information on the grant and how it will be used.

- ii) Metrotown Renovations/Restoration Update (verbal) (10 minutes)

6. Other Business

7. Next Library Board Meeting – 2022 October 20 at 7:00pm via Zoom

8. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the regular meeting



Burnaby Public Library

TO: CHAIR AND TRUSTEES
BURNABY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

FROM: CHIEF LIBRARIAN
BURNABY PUBLIC LIBRARY

DATE: 2022 SEPTEMBER 15

SUBJECT: NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Board approve closure of the library on September 30 for the National day for Truth and Reconciliation.

REPORT

At the Closed Council meeting on July 25, Burnaby City Council adopted a motion that City of Burnaby commemorate the history of residential schools and honour Indigenous communities, family and survivors by observing September 30, 2022 as a civic holiday.

Section 9.1.1 of the Library Workers' Division Collective Agreement between CUPE 23 and Burnaby Public Library states that, "All Regular Full-Time and Temporary Full-Time Employees shall be entitled to a holiday with pay on the following public holidays ... and any other day appointed by Council to be a civic holiday." BPL practice is to close library branches on a statutory holiday. Most Metro Vancouver public libraries will be closed to the public on September 30, with the exception of the North Shore libraries, which are open with reduced hours and staffing. Staff recommend that BPL close all library branches on September 30.

To mark this year's National Day of Truth and Reconciliation, BPL hosted a talk with Cree-Stoney educator and writer, William G. Lindsay, on September 8. Participants gained a deeper understanding of the residential school legacy in Canada by hearing William's lived experiences. William presented on the Indian Act, residential schools and reconciliation in the context of readings from his new book *Rez Dog Blues & The Haiku: A Savage Life in Bits and Pieces*, the story of the generation after residential school. Librarians also curated Truth and Reconciliation-themed book lists and displays for readers of all ages. The Indigenous Initiatives Working Group highlighted resources for staff to learn more about Truth and Reconciliation through the staff intranet. These included events, readings lists and other learning opportunities.

The City of Burnaby's Learning Department is offering several opportunities for city staff to deepen their understanding of Indigenous Issues in September. These include *Decolonizing Practices: Sínuhkay and Ladders*, an experiential learning grounded in Squamith ways of knowing; the premiere of *Together on these Lands*, a video project commissioned by the City that speaks to the historical and contemporary presence of Indigenous people in the land known as Burnaby; and a session with Austin Ahenakew, an Indigenous poet who uses word games to engage participants in a collaborative storytelling project about residential schools.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Beth Davies', written in a cursive style.

Beth Davies
CHIEF LIBRARIAN
BURNABY PUBLIC LIBRARY



TO: CHAIR AND TRUSTEES
BURNABY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

FROM: CHIEF LIBRARIAN
BURNABY PUBLIC LIBRARY

DATE: 2022 SEPTEMBER 15

SUBJECT: PROVINCIAL COVID-19 RELIEF AND RECOVERY GRANT

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Board receive this report for information.

REPORT

In May of this year, the province of British Columbia [announced one-time funding](#) to help libraries adapt to changing needs as a result of the pandemic. BPL received a one-time COVID-19 relief and recovery grant of \$122,926. This funding is for libraries to cover costs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, support emergency response/planning, and adapt services for recovery.

BPL sought input from staff on ways to best spending this money, and decided on the following four projects

- **Increase the number of Wi-Fi hotspots.** BPL currently lends Wi-Fi hotspots in two ways: to patrons through the library catalogue, and to community groups and individuals through the work of community librarians. At the beginning of September, there were 66 holds on 15 lendable hotspots. We'll use \$36,000 of the grant to double the number of hotspots available, and shorten wait times for borrowers. We'll also increase the number of Wi-Fi hotspots for use by community librarians. These hotspots are lent directly to people in the community by community librarians, and are also used to provide Wi-Fi at community events. We'll use \$12,500 to double our capacity, and investigate ways to boost the Wi-Fi range to serve more people.
- **Establish a pilot program to offer water and snacks in the library to people in need.** We know that food insecurity is a barrier for people accessing library and other services in the community. We'll use \$1,700 of the grant to pilot a program to offer water or snacks to people with immediate food needs, as needed. Community librarians will work with branch managers to choose a branch for the pilot later in 2022.

- **Provide training to library staff on emergency planning and emergency response-related topics**, including mental health first aid. We'll set aside \$32,000 for training for staff and supervisors in 2022 and 2023.
- **Expand BPL's collection of e-books and downloadable audiobooks.** Demand for e-books and digital audiobooks exploded during the pandemic, and demand has remained high. We'll use the remaining \$47,726 of the grant to expand the selection of materials in these formats and shorten wait times for them.



Beth Davies
CHIEF LIBRARIAN
BURNABY PUBLIC LIBRARY